Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

An inkjet recording apparatus disclosed in JP-A-2002-211060 (pages 4-6; and Figs. 1-3) has a paper supply portion capable of ~~being stacked~~stacking a plurality of sheets of paper. Paper is carried and transported from the paper supply portion on a transportation portion provided on transportation belts. Then, ink is ejected onto the paper from an inkjet head. Thus, printing is performed. Here, the transportation portion is formed as protrusion portions (convex portions) on the transportation belts. When the paper is put on the transportation portion, a paper front end detection sensor detects the front end portion of the paper, and a transportation belt position detection sensor detects the position of the transportation portion on the transportation belts. A paper feeding/transporting roller controlled by a control portion rotates to ~~feed out~~feed the paper from the paper supply portion. Thus, the paper is put on the transportation portion so that ~~the both~~both ends of the paper in the paper transporting direction overreach the transportation portion. Then, a recording head is controlled by the control portion ~~so as~~ to eject ink over an area larger than the size of the paper. Thus, zero-margin printing is performed without leaving any margin on the paper.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In addition, the inkjet recording apparatus disclosed in JP-A-2002-211060 uses a plurality of transportation belts disposed in parallel with one another and at a distance from one another. Accordingly, when zero-margin printings are performed on a plurality of kinds of papers different in length in a direction perpendicular to the paper transporting direction, each ~~of both~~of the side portions of the paper in the paper transporting direction is positioned in a space between adjacent ones of the plurality of transportation belts. Thus, zero-margin

printing can be performed with no fear that ink overreaching ~~the both~~the side portions of the paper adheres to the transportation portion.

Please replace the two paragraphs beginning on page 4, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

The technique of JP-A-2002-211060 ~~takes no account of~~does not take into account the use of a plurality of kinds of papers that are different from one another in length in the paper transporting direction. Accordingly, printing can be indeed performed on one kind of paper without pollution with ink, but another kind of paper may be polluted with ink.

Next, since a plurality of transportation ~~belts are~~belts is disposed in parallel, the width of each transportation belt is inevitably narrowed so that the strength of each transportation belt cannot be secured sufficiently. Accordingly, the lives of the transportation belts are shortened. In addition, inclination of paper with its transportation occurs easily due to the scattering of tension among the transportation belts. Thus, it is difficult to secure good printing quality.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to the embodiment of the invention, an inkjet printer includes a plurality of rollers, an endless transportation belt, a recording unit, a guide member, projection portions, and ink absorbing members. The transportation belt is laid on the plurality of rollers. The recording unit is disposed to face the transportation belt and forms an image. The guide member is disposed inside the transportation belt. The projection portions project from both side surfaces of the guide member. The guide member and the projection portions define recess portions. The ink absorbing members are~~is~~ disposed in the recess portions, respectively.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Each of the two belt rollers 7 and 8 include a cylindrical body 7a, 8a having an outer circumferential surface in contact with the inner circumferential surface of the transportation belt 10, and flange portions 7b, 8b. The flange portions 7b, 8b are~~is~~ provided ~~in the both~~on both end portions of the cylindrical body 7a, 8a. The flange portions 7b, 8b ~~each has~~each have a radius substantially as large as a radius made of the thickness of the transportation belt 10 and the radius of the cylindrical body 7a, 8a, as shown in Fig. 3. Of the two belt rollers 7 and 8 of the belt rotating mechanism 6, the belt roller 7 located on the downstream side of the paper transportation path is connected to a transportation motor, and driven to rotate by a control portion 70 (see Fig. 8), which functions as a control unit, as will be described later. On the other hand, the belt roller 8 located on the upstream side of the paper transportation path is a driven roller rotating due to the rotating force of the transportation belt 10 which force is applied to the transportation belt 10 by the rotation of the belt roller 7. The transportation belt 10 is wound and laid between the belt rollers 7 and 8 while suffering tension from the belt rollers 7 and 8.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A reception member 14 projects from both opposite side surfaces of the guide member 13 and is erected uprightly. The reception member 14 has a length substantially as large as the paper-transporting direction length of an area where the inkjet heads 2 are present. The guide member 13 and the reception member 14 define a recess portion. In the recess portion, an ink absorbing member 15 having a rectangular parallelepiped shape is disposed. In addition, it is preferable that the distance between the top of the ink absorbing member 15 and the surface of each inkjet head 2 facing the paper transportation path is in a range ~~of~~

~~from~~from 6 mm to 8 mm. When the distance is in this range, ink droplets ejected to overreach the paper at the time of zero-margin printing can be prevented easily from floating in the printing and adhering to another member.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

On the outer circumferential surface of the transportation belt 10, the two crosswise grooves 27 and 28 are provided in the width direction (direction perpendicular to the paper transporting direction) of the transportation belt 10 so as to extend ~~all over~~over the width of the transportation belt 10 as shown in Fig. 3. Further, on the outer circumferential surface of the transportation belt 10, the longitudinal groove 29 is provided in the paper transporting direction so as to extend ~~all over~~over the circumference of the transportation belt 10. Each crosswise groove 27, 28 is connected to the longitudinal groove 29 in the portion where the crosswise groove 27, 28 and the longitudinal groove 29 cross each other. Incidentally, the chain double-dashed lines shown in Fig. 3 designate the paper 30 having a width larger than the whole width of the transportation belt 10 and the paper 31 having a width smaller than the ~~whole~~ width of the transportation belt 10. In addition, the paper-transporting direction length of the paper 31 is longer than that of the paper 30 and substantially as long as the circumferential length of the transportation belt 10.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The crosswise groove 61 is provided in the width direction of the transportation belt 60 so as to extend ~~all~~ over the width of the transportation belt 60. On the other hand, the crosswise groove 62 is provided in the width direction of the transportation belt 60 so as to extend from one side portion of the transportation belt 60 to the intersection with the longitudinal groove 63. The longitudinal groove 63 is provided in parallel to the paper

transporting direction so as to cross one end portion of the crosswise groove 62. The lengths of the respective grooves in the width direction of the transportation belt 60 and in the paper transporting direction are set in accordance with the lengths between the front and rear end portions of the papers 50 and 51 and the lengths between the width-direction both side portions of the papers 50 and 51.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 26, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The crosswise groove 66 is provided in the width direction of the transportation belt 65 so as to extend ~~all~~ over the width of the transportation belt 65. On the other hand, the crosswise groove 67 is provided in the width direction of the transportation belt 65 so as to extend from a position distant from the both side portions of the transportation belt 65. The crosswise groove 67 is connected with one end portion of each longitudinal groove 68, 69. Each longitudinal groove 68, 69 is provided in parallel to the paper transporting direction so as to connect a halfway position of the crosswise groove 66 with an end portion of the crosswise groove 67. The lengths of the respective grooves in the width direction of the transportation belt 65 and in the paper transporting direction are set in accordance with the lengths between the front and rear end portions of the papers 50 and 51 and the lengths between the width-direction both side portions of the papers 50 and 51.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 29, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In addition, each crosswise groove 61, 61a, 66, 66a is provided to extend ~~all~~ over the width of the transportation belt. Accordingly, when zero-margin printing is performed on the paper 50, ink droplets overreaching the front end portion and the rear end portion of the paper 50 can be caught by the crosswise grooves 61 and 61a or 66 and 66a, respectively. Thus, the

ink droplets are prevented from adhering to the transporting surface of the transportation belt 60, 65, 60a, 65a.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 30, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The first paper surface sensor 40 is provided on the fixed guide 22 side. The first paper surface sensor 40 has a small circular detection range for detecting one corner portion of the front end portion of the paper 30, 31 made to approach the fixed guide 22 and fed in parallel to the paper transporting direction. On the other hand, the second paper surface sensor 41 is provided on the movable guide 21 side ~~so as~~ to detect the other corner portion of the front end portion of the paper 30, 31 fed in parallel to the paper transporting direction. The second paper surface sensor 41 has a rectangular detection range ~~long in~~that extends parallel to the width direction of the transportation belt 10.

Please replace the two paragraphs beginning on page 35, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

Next, description will be made on an example of zero-margin printing operation on paper in the inkjet printer 1. First, the movable guide 21 is slid toward the fixed guide 22 while a plurality of sheets of paper 31 are loaded in the paper set portion 20 of the paper supply portion 3. Thus, the paper 31 is set so that the width-direction ~~both~~ on both side portions of the paper 31 are parallel to the paper transporting direction. In this event, the paper feed roller 23 is in contact with the upper surface of the paper 31.

Next, a print instruction is transmitted from a personal computer or the like to the CPU 71 through the interface 72. The paper feed roller 23 feeds the paper 31 at the top in the paper transporting direction in response to the print instruction. The paper 31 fed by the paper feed roller 23 is made to approach the fixed guide 22 ~~so as~~ to be made be parallel to the paper transporting direction, and sent between the paired feed rollers 5. Then, the feed rollers

~~feeds~~ feed the paper 31 to a position where the first and second paper surface sensors 40 and 41 detect ~~the both~~both corner portions of the front end portion of the paper 31. Incidentally, the print instruction includes paper size data in advance. The CPU 71 checks the paper size data with the detection signals from the paper surface sensors 40 and 41, ~~so as~~ to confirm ~~as to~~ whether the paper 31 has been transported in parallel, and recognize the front end portion position of the paper 31. In addition, the feed rollers 5 feed the paper 31 while the transportation belt position detection sensor 42 detects the positions of the crosswise grooves 27 and 28 of the transportation belt 10.